

**LABOR'S GOAL!**  
**To Repeal**  
**Taft-Hartley Law**

**MONTEREY COUNTY**

**LABOR NEWS**

**Ballots Defend**  
**Your Freedom**

**BE SURE TO VOTE**  
**THIS YEAR AND**  
**EVERY YEAR**

VOL. X—NO. 44

SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 1948

WHOLE NO. 508

**GOP CONVENTION STANDS**  
**PAT ON TAFT-HARTLEY ACT**

The labor plank of the Republican Party platform expresses pride in the Taft-Hartley law, without mentioning it by name, and suggests that more of the same is coming.

Listing first "a record of solid achievement" by the 80th Congress,

**GOP TALKS**  
**LIBERAL - ACTS**  
**REACTIONARY**

Philadelphia.—The Republican party goes to the voters in 1948 asking to be elected on a platform that promises the best of everything to everyone.

But beneath the promises contained in the formal platform adopted at the national convention here is an undertone of double-talk. There is also an attempt to gloss over the sorry record of the 80th Congress:

**Platform highlights:**

1. Inflation—"The government has not effectively used the powers it possesses to combat inflation, but has deliberately encouraged high prices . . . reduction of the public debt."

2. Housing—"Can best be supplied by private enterprise . . . we recommend federal aid to the states for local slum clearance and low-rental housing programs only where there is a need that cannot be met either by private enterprise or by the states and localities."

4. Taxes—"Continuation of efforts to reduce the enormous burden of taxation. . . The Federal government shall as soon as practicable withdraw or reduce . . . excise and inheritance taxes."

5. Health—"We urge strengthening of federal-state programs designed to provide more adequate hospital facilities, to improve methods of treatment for the mentally ill and to advance maternal and child health."

6. Veterans—"We propose a realistic and adequate adjustment of benefits on a cost-of-living basis for service-connected disabled veterans and their dependents, and for widows, orphans and dependents of servicemen."

Among the facts not mentioned in the GOP platform, but which are familiar to any political observer are: solid GOP support for the killing of inflation controls in the 79th Congress; GOP knifing of the Taft-Elender-Wagner long-range housing bill in both the 79th and 80th Congress; the income tax windfall the 80th Congress gave to high income groups; the refusal of the GOP to broaden social security payments to increase benefits in the 80th Congress.

Also not mentioned: The GOP refusal to take congressional action on the federal health insurance plan written into the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill; the refusal of GOP house leaders to pass federal aid to education; the aid given big railroads by exempting their rate-fixing conferences from anti-trust prosecution.

The civil rights planks of the platform were a bitter disappointment to Negro delegates to the GOP National convention.

Several dozen Negro delegates met in caucus before the convention formally opened and elected Philadelphia magistrate Hobson P. Reynolds as their spokesman. When Reynolds and others of the group tried to get a hearing before the resolutions committee, they were removed from the room almost by force.

**New Officers**  
**For Salinas**  
**IBEW Elected**

Electrical Workers' Union 243 of Salinas elected new officers at last week's meeting, according to Business Representative Carl Lara.

The slate of new officers includes:

President—Carl Ozals.  
Vice President—Robert Freed.  
Recording Secretary—Gerald Inlow.

Financial Secretary and Business Agent—Carl Lara.

Executive Board—Bros. Birch, Gentry, Esser, Fagan and Taylor.

**Electricians**  
**Seek New Pact**

Contract negotiations for Electrical Workers Union 243 of Salinas are progressing, according to Business Representative Carl Lara.

A meeting was scheduled with employers for last Friday and Lara said the union hopes to have a new agreement and wage contract shortly.

the GOP platform refers to the vindictive legislation this way: "a sensible reform of the labor law, protecting the rights of labor while safeguarding the entire community against those breakdowns in essential industries which endanger the health and livelihood of all."

In its program for future action, the platform says: "Collective bargaining is an obligation as well as a right, applying equally to workers and employers." Use of the word "obligation" suggests compulsory bargaining, or government efforts to force labor to bargain on management terms. The platform continues:

"The fundamental right to strike is subordinate only to paramount considerations of public health and safety." This implies curbs on industry-wide strikes beyond the T-H law provisions, which have already been urged upon the joint labor-management committee of Congress.

"Government's chief function in this field is to promote good will, encourage cooperation, and where resort is had to intervention, to be impartial, preventing violence and requiring obedience to all law by all parties involved," the platform goes on. "Preventing violence" and "requiring obedience to all law" sound much like the industry call for combined use of injunctions and federal troops in labor disputes, which the joint committee has also received in recent hearings.

The final sentence of the plank reads: "We pledge continuing study to improve labor-management legislation in the light of experience and changing conditions." This has already been accomplished in the Taft-Hartley law, with the setting up of the joint committee as watchdog of its operation. But the first formal report of that body, coupled with the hearings called by Chairman Joseph H. Ball (R., Minn.), proved that Republican interest in "improvement" is pretty much limited to an anti-labor direction.

The one statement in the entire platform which can be read as a pro-labor plank is that favoring "equal pay for equal work regardless of sex."

**LABORERS ELECT**  
**NEW OFFICERS**  
**FOR SALINAS**

Incumbent officers were retained by Construction and General Laborers' Union 272 of Salinas in the union's annual election last week, according to Secretary John F. Mattos.

Elected were:  
President—Randolph Fenchel.  
Vice President—Carl Jones.  
Secretary-Treasurer—John F. Mattos.

Business Representative—J. B. McGinley.  
Sergeant-at-Arms—Gene Walls.  
Guard—Tony Yonavitch.

Delegates to Northern California District Council of Laborers—Fenchel, Mattos and McGinley.

Delegates to Salinas Central Labor Council—Walls, Jones, Fenchel, Mattos and McGinley.

**Painters Name**  
**New Officials**  
**In Salinas Area**

Salinas Painters' Union 1104 last week elected new officers, installation to be the first July meeting, reports Business Representative Carl Lara.

Elected were:  
President—Clay Lewis.  
Vice President—Frank Butler.  
Financial Secretary and Business Agent—Carl Lara.

Recording Sec'y.—Pete Greco.  
Treasurer—Ed Dewitt.

Warden—Andy Anderson.  
Conductor—Jeff Miller.

Trustee—Henry Tavares.

**Salinas Temo**  
**Union Seeking**  
**Gentry Pact**

Negotiations are in progress for a new contract between Teamsters Union 890 of Salinas and the Gentry dehydration plant at Gilroy, jurisdiction over which has been retained by Local 890.

Secretary Peter A. Andrade of Local 890 said an agreement has been reached on wages, with the existing cannery contract scales to be established effective July 1.

Still being discussed are various working conditions for the new agreement. Season at the Gentry plant starts July 1 and continues for about six months.

**DEWEY,**  
**WARREN**  
**IN RACE**

Philadelphia. — In nominating Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York for the presidency, the Republicans chose a man who was spurned by organized labor in all of his recent races for political office.

The N. Y. State Federation of Labor in 1946 refrained from supporting either Dewey or his Democratic opponent, Sen. James Mead. The state CIO backed Mead. In 1944, the vast majority of organized labor stood by Franklin D. Roosevelt when Dewey was his opponent for the presidency.

Dewey did begin his political career with labor support, however. In 1937, teaming up as candidate for district attorney for New York city with the beloved mayorality candidate, Fiorello LaGuardia, Dewey and the mayor were backed by labor and elected.

But in 1938 Dewey made his first bid for the big time, and failed. With organized labor backing the Democratic incumbent, Herbert Lehman, Dewey was beaten in his race for the governorship. He won the post in 1942, however, when the Democratic organization put up a hopelessly weak candidate, John J. Bennett, in place of Lehman.

The first GOP standard-bearer ever to be given a second chance at the top political prize in the U. S., Dewey first leaped to prominence in 1935 as a much-publicized "racket-buster" in New York City. He specialized in tackling vice and crime where the top criminals were tied in with the Democratic Tammany machine. It is well known in New York that his office would not touch a case which would lead to Republican embarrassment.

Such a case was the waterfront murder of Pete Panto, rank-and-file leader of the longshoremen who were fighting a vicious shape-up and kickback racket imposed by the dock bosses. The Dewey men refused to look for Panto when he was missing, nor to investigate after his body was found.

As governor, Dewey has carefully cultivated a reputation as a liberal, making much of the moderate reform put through the legislature during his term in office. But, like Gov. Earl Warren of California, Dewey capitalizes on the tremendous strength of the labor and liberal movement in the state which pressures him into progress.

Dewey was nominated for the presidency without formally telling the convention where he stood on political issues. From his remarks at press conferences and recent speeches the following is clear: he adopts the 1948 GOP platform as his own; he favors an aggressive foreign policy; he hails the Taft-Hartley law; he thinks the recently passed draft law "an excellent job of compromise."

When asked whether he thought action should be taken to control consumer price he answered flatly no. And on universal military training, advocated by President Truman, Dewey said he would wait and see when he is elected.

Nomination of California Gov. Earl Warren for the vice presidency indicates republican leaders have decided to put forward their best liberal front for the 1948 campaign.

The choice of Warren was regarded by many observers here as a slap at the mid-western "nationalist" group of politicians. They had boomed Ohio Senator Bricker for the post, with House majority leader Charles Halleck as a possible alternative. Halleck had swung vital Indiana convention votes to Dewey.

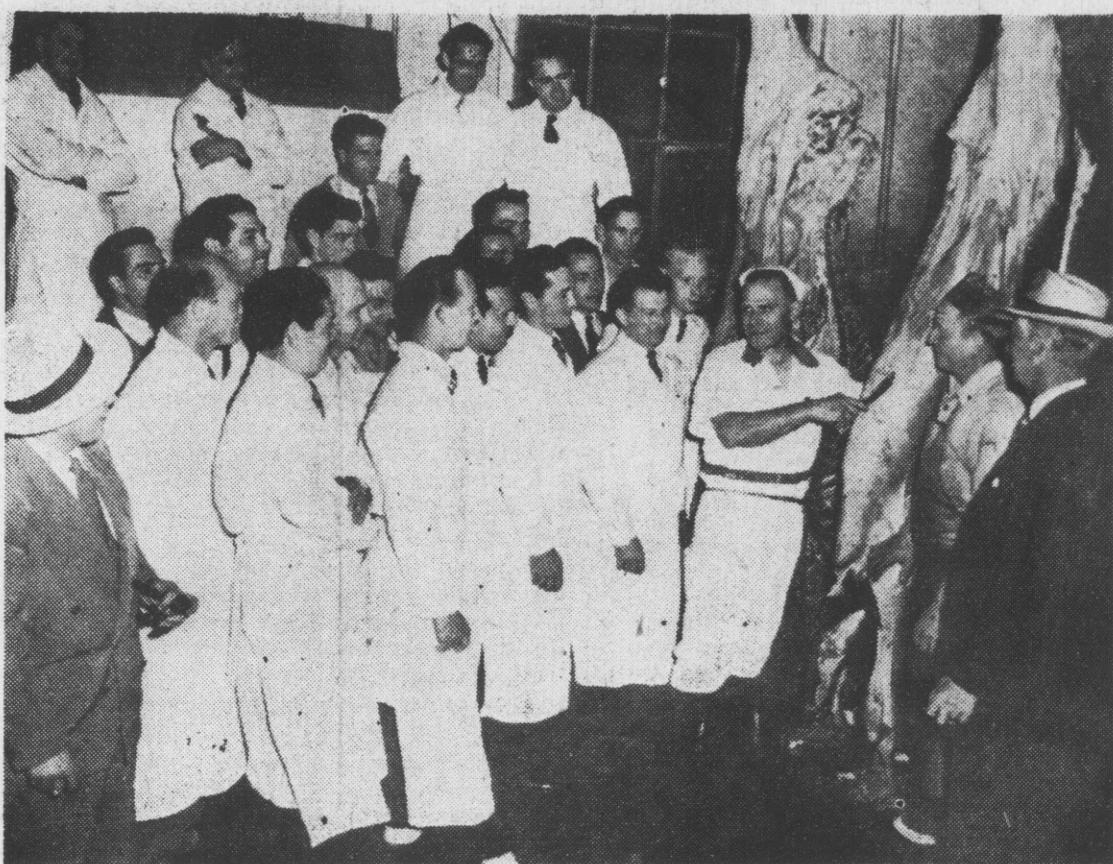
Warren has built up a reputation in some circles as being a liberal governor. Throughout his term in office Warren, like Dewey, has been subject to tremendous pressure from the labor and liberal movements to put through progressive state legislation.

Warren told a convention press conference June 20 that the Taft-Hartley law is "the foundation of an American labor policy, which we have never had before." He suggested the law might need amendment, but would not name any changes needed now when pressed on that point.

**Upholsterers Vote**  
**For Union Shop**

Chicago.—Workers employed by 13 upholstered furniture shops here voted 434 to 12 for a union shop in NLRB elections won by the Upholsterers Intl. Union (AFL).

**LEARNING TO BE BUTCHERS**



One of the finest apprenticeship training programs in the nation is the course offered to apprentice butchers under Butchers' Union 506 in San Jose. Shown above is the apprentice class learning about slaughtering at the San Jose Meat Company, where S. R. Parker, veterinary surgeon and Federal meat inspector, is demonstrating how the cuts must be made. The apprentices learn how to slaughter, how to meet Federal inspection requirements, how to prepare the various

cuts for sale, and the art of retail and wholesale work. Demonstrations, lectures and practical theory are taught, augmented by actual work in packing houses, retail and wholesale jobbing houses. The United States and California State governments assist in the training program, along with the San Jose School Department, the union and employers. Left to right, above, are: First row—Fred L. Feel, union business agent and instructor; Ray Naylor, E. Lopez, Claude Hague,

instructor, Dean Bondurant, George Peterson, Joseph DiSalvo, A. Pozzi, Carl Haas, S. R. Parker, veterinary surgeon and Federal meat inspector, William Luddeke and Earl A. Moorhead. Second row—L. Aloisio, Harold Souza, John Burnett, Douglas Mouton, Anthony Mello, Al Stuck, William Johnson and Marcel Johnson. In rear—A. Moncrief, C. Sindelar, Anthony Didonato, Nick Slusher and Charles Hollifield. Moorhead is executive secretary of Local 506, AFL Butchers Union.

**SALINAS UNION**  
**LEADERS HOST**  
**ILO DELEGATION**

Officials of the Monterey County Central Labor Council and of various other Salinas AFL organizations were hosts last week to nearly 650 delegates from the International Labor Organization convention at San Francisco.

The ILO group were guests of the California Rodeo at the final day of the western event and also at a big barbecue feast Sunday night.

Official greeters for the ILO delegation were President Carl Lara of the Central Labor Council, Secretary Peter A. Andrade of Teamsters Union 890, and Business Agent J. B. McGinley of Laborers Union 272.

Many other union officials were present, however, in the party which greeted the labor delegates from throughout the world, most of whom had never seen a rodeo before.

State Federation of Labor Secretary C. J. Haggerty, AFL Western Representative Daniel V. Flanagan and others accompanied the ILO group to Salinas.

In the party of AFL officials who greeted the visiting labor group was Anthony Aguillo, district vice president of the California State Federation of Labor, who traveled from San Jose to Salinas to take part in the reception for the ILO guests.

**Sewer, Paving**  
**Jobs in Salinas**  
**Calling Laborers**

Sewer work and paving jobs in Salinas and elsewhere in jurisdiction of Laborers' Union 272 are calling for union laborers, according to Business Agent J. B. McGinley of the union.

Valley Trenching Co. of Fresno, having nearly completed one sewer project, is starting another such project in the Mayfair tract. Stolte Construction Co. is rushing work on a sewer job.

Granite Construction Co. of Watsonville is midway in a paving project on Highway 101 near San Lucas, McGinley said.

**Wayne Keniston**  
**Visits in Salinas**

Wayne Keniston, of the United States Department of Labor conciliation service, was a visitor in Salinas last week, resting between assignments. Keniston, well known in this area as conciliator and arbitrator in labor-management disputes, spent some time with union officials during his abbreviated "vacation."

Truce in Palestine: The Song of Bernadette.

**NLRB TO TAKE**  
**FISH CANNERY**  
**BALLOT BY MAIL**

Plans for conducting the union shop election of workers in various fish canneries along Monterey's famed Cannery Row were announced by the National Labor Relations Board last week.

Officials of the Fish Cannery Workers Union said the vote will be taken by mail, with ballots sent to all eligible voters about July 2 and due back by July 17 in the special envelope enclosed with the ballots.

The election is being conducted by the NLRB provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

Meanwhile, preliminary meetings on a new union contract are being held by employer groups and union negotiators and the contract talks are expected to be started in mutual meetings at once.

**Temos Report**  
**Negotiations**  
**On New Pacts**

Negotiations for various contracts covering members of Teamsters Union 890 of Salinas were reported last week by Secretary Peter A. Andrade of the union, who explained contract matters as follows:

Dempsey & Hudson—Employees to be called together at once to get progress report on negotiations for agreement.

Spiegel Farms—Differences settled through negotiations and new contract expected to be signed with wage scales based on those of the cannery contracts, effective from July 1 to next March 1; subject to ratification by members affected.

Liquid Ice industry—Retroactive date of July 1 agreed upon but other negotiations for wages and conditions still in progress.

**LUMBER CLERKS**  
**WIN INCREASES**  
**IN SALINAS PACT**

Lumber company clerks in the Salinas area under jurisdiction of Laborers 272 have won a new agreement with improved wages and other gains.

Secretary John F. Mattos of Local 272 said all local plants are affected by the new agreement, which becomes effective on August 1.

Negotiations were conducted by union officials including President Randolph Fenchel, Secretary Mattos and Business Agent J. B. McGinley, with Sidney Church representing the employers.

**Reach Accord**  
**On Monterey**  
**Culinary Pact**

Agreement was reached last week by negotiating committees on a new contract covering hotel and restaurant employees and bartenders of Monterey Local 467, according to announcements by George Rice, union secretary and business representative, and H. J. McLean, employer representative.

Rice said that more than half of the operators had signed independently to the new contract and that the employer associations had reached agreement with the union later, thus averting possibility of a strike in the industry.

Wage increases of 10 to 11 per cent were won by the union in the new contract, which represents a compromise between the 14 per cent asked by the union and the 5 per cent originally offered by employers.

New scales set up include:  
Bartenders, 8 hour day—\$11.50.  
Chefs—\$13.50 per day.  
Dinner Cooks—\$11.50.  
Fry Cooks—\$9.50.  
Dishwashers and kitchen helpers—\$7.00.

Waitresses, waiters and busboys \$5.75 in Class "A" houses or \$6.00 in Class "B" houses.

The scales bring the Monterey area rates to the level established recently in Watsonville.

Retroactive date of June 15 was set for the new wage scales.

Three holidays for which workers will get time-and-one-half pay are: Fourth of July, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas.

Members of the union negotiating committee included Peter Puhl, Thomas Nowell, Harry Wasson, Dorothy Leitz, Alma Curtis and George Rice.

Employer group negotiators included Harry Nuck, John F. Dougherty, Sal Cerrito, Lloyd Elves, Joseph Sanchez and H. J. McLean.

**Hollister Cafe**  
**Is Now Union;**  
**Three Bars Sign**

Organizational efforts of Culinary Alliance 467 and Bartenders Union 545 of Salinas have borne fruit in the Hollister area, union officials reporting one restaurant and three bars under union agreement.

Bertha A. Boles, secretary of Local 467, said her union's first agreement in the Hollister area is with Walt's Diner, operated by Bill Leach.

Under contract to Local 545, according to Secretary Al Clark, is Walts club, operated in conjunction with the Diner and owned by Walter Romer, the Hollister Town Club and the Hollister Smoke House, all in the downtown area.

**BUTCHERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RECOMMENDS CANCELLING STATE**  
**CONFAB; INSURANCE PLANS UP**

Recommendation that the convention of the Western Federation of Butchers of California, scheduled to be held in Santa Cruz in September, be cancelled this year because of the international convention just completed, will be made by the District Council of Butchers Union 506 at the coming executive board meeting of the Western Federation.

Decision to recommend that the state convention be only on odd years, inasmuch as the international meetings are on even years, was highlight of the District Council meeting at San Jose last week, a meeting which brought delegates from Hollister, Monterey, Salinas, Gilroy, Palo Alto and Watsonville divisions of Local 506, from Santa Mateo Local 516, from Santa Cruz Local 266, and guests from Fresno Local 126.

Earl A. Moorhead, executive secretary of Local 506, said business before the district body included lengthy discussion of a proposed insurance plan for all members of this union. Representatives of insurance firms were present to explain benefits from various insurance programs.

Purchase of \$500 more stock in the new San Jose Labor Temple was recommended by the District Council.

Guests present were Gene Brower, secretary, and William T. O'Rear, organizer, of Fresno Local 126. Both spoke briefly and explained conditions in Fresno area.

Others at the meeting included Kaspar Bauer, secretary of Santa Cruz Local 226; Edwin F. Michel, secretary of Santa Mateo Local 516; Secretary Moorhead; Recording Secretary Ray Volpe, Business Representatives Fred Feel and E. L. Courtwright and Ruth Burton of San Jose Local 506; and delegates from various branches, including C. Lambert, Watsonville; C. Bannert and E. Thornton, Salinas; R. Robinson, Monterey; R. Naylor, Gilroy; A. Oliver, Palo Alto, and Eugene Jacques, Hollister.

Reports by areas included:  
Monterey—Sam Vito Market now 100 per cent union, two apprentices looking for meeting hall.

Salinas—Business better than usual during rodeo celebration, no unemployment, organizing in poultry field.

Watsonville—Some markets changing hands, conditions good.

Hollister—No unemployment, checking on markets selling meats after hours.

Gilroy—Checking on freezer plants, business good.

San Jose—85 "mama-papa" stores, 32 new markets reported. Saratoga Market, formerly on 1st St., since 1891, has closed and now is in Notre Dame Market. Four self-service markets, new medical plant, checking on validity of vacation clause. Fifteen graduated from butcher class.

Palo Alto—Many new small mar-

**LABORERS 690**  
**OF MONTEREY**  
**NAME OFFICERS**

New Officers were elected by Laborers' Union 690 of Monterey recently and were installed at the union's last meeting, according to Business Representative S. M. Thomas.

Those elected include:  
President—Harry Luce.  
Vice President—W. M. Gearhart.  
Financial Secretary—Treasurer—Business Representative—S. M. Thomas.

Recording Sec'y.—Carl Plapp.  
Sergeant-at-Arms—Parks Matthews.

**CULINARY 467**  
**DANCE AUG. 10**

Date for the dance planned by Culinary Alliance 467 of Salinas has been set for Tuesday, August 10, the event to be held at the Salinas Moose Hall.

Secretary Bertha A. Boles of Local 467 said tickets will be ready for distribution at once. Dancing will start at 9 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

**'Light' Halts**  
**Sardine Pack**

The "light of the moon" kept fishing boats in port last week and put a halt to the summer pack of sardines and squid along Monterey's Cannery Row, union officials said.

Unusually good catches of both sardines and squid had been received during the two weeks previous and all plants were in operation, it was reported.

kets opening, meat prices high, business good.

San Mateo—Business good, new super market, no unemployment, tannery workers and fish butchers busy, trying to get city to adopt meat market closing hours in ordinance.

San Mateo—Many small markets opening, self-service markets being run by owners alone, horse slaughterhouse in area.

Fresno—Many "mama-papa" stores, dues raised, revised by-laws, signed many new contracts, women's auxiliary very active, buying guide issued to advertise union shops, good apprentice school.

At noon wives of delegates served a luncheon for the group.

**Murphy Reports**  
**On Area Work**  
**For Engineers**

M. G. Murphy, representative for Engineers Union 3, reported last week on conditions in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties, his report summarized in the Engineers News as follows:

"N. M. Ball started operations on their Santa Cruz job last week and expect to be running to capacity very shortly. I've been informed they intend to double shift as soon as possible. Clarence Baker is supplying most of the equipment. . . . Stolte is starting on their disposal or treatment plant. . . . Heple has a couple of cranes setting steel on his job and is trying his utmost to complete his contract at an early date. . . . McDonald, Young & Nelson have just about completed their telephone building in Watsonville. . . . Tyson-Watters are nearing completion of their fairgrounds job."

"Pajaro Levee job is going along about the same and they are still making good progress. . . . Lots of small work in and around here. Like every small locality or town, there is a vast amount of building. . . . We are soon to have some major work in the little town of Castroville. They, too, are going to build a sewage treatment plant and have about seven miles of sewer line to install altogether. . . . Dan Caputo has the largest portion of his overpass job at Salinas completed with the exception of the approach fill and the concrete slab."

"Granite Construction have started their King City-San Ardo job and are now setting up their plants. This job is about seven miles in length. . . . Valley Trenching have completed their ditchline and sewerage job and have moved back to the San Joaquin Valley."

"Macco Construction, who are building the Los Padres Dam in Carmel Valley, have their camp set up now and will no doubt double shift pretty soon. They have made considerable progress on this job in the short time that they have been there. They are also setting up their batch plant as they have about 5,000 yards of concrete to pour and they do hope to be finished by December."

**BUTCHERS 506**  
**CHANGE SALINAS**  
**MEETING TIME**

Meetings of Butchers Union 506 for Watsonville, Monterey and Salinas will be held consecutively next week, the meeting at Salinas changed — the shifts due to the Fourth of July holiday.

Executive Secretary Earl A. Moorhead of Local 506 said the meetings would be:

Monterey — Tuesday, July 6, San Carlos Hotel.

Watsonville — Wednesday, July 7, Labor Temple.

Salinas — Thursday, July 8, Carpenters' Hall.

**CARPENTER WAGE**  
**HERE UP MONDAY**

Wage increases for union carpenters will bring the scale to \$2.12 1/2 per hour, effective Monday, June 28, as result of contract negotiations with the Northern and Central California chapters of the Associated General Contractors.

The increase amounts to 12 1/2 cents per hour.



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A. A. Harris, Teachers J. L. Parsons, Barbers R. Fenchel, Laborers

PRESS COMMITTEE AT MONTEREY

Wayne Edwards, Representing Central Labor Council  
Dale Ward, Representing Building Council.

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## Free Press Upheld

Finally one section of the Taft-Hartley slave law has reached the supreme court and has been found by that body to be unconstitutional. It was that portion of this anti-labor law, which prohibited labor papers from publishing the congressional records, etc., of anti-labor congressmen and opposing their re-election.

According to newspaper reports the court did not cover all angles involved in the case but was clear on the right of newspapers to publish what the Taft-Hartley law seemed to most readers of it to prohibit.

One of the worst characteristics of the Taft-Hartley law is that it is so involved that it could be interpreted unfavorably to labor whenever some judge feels so inclined. Then the only recourse is to appeal to the higher courts and lastly to the supreme court. It is generally a long road to travel to get a final ruling from the supreme court, which is recognized as the final authority over and above all the other courts.

It is gratifying that the right of a free press, which is assailed so viciously in the Taft-Hartley law, is upheld. But that does not remedy the numerous other bad provisions of this law. To get rulings on all of them might take twenty years and in the meantime our unions could be enjoined and fined out of existence. What good would favorable court decisions be after our unions were wrecked.

In view of all this the most sensible course for our people to take is to elect a congress, which will repeal the Taft-Hartley law.

## Promises and Performances

When the Republican convention adopted its platform many promises were made on matters in which our people are deeply interested. What stands out in painfully bold relief is that most of these promises have neither been advocated nor performed by our present Republican Congress.

Nothing has been done to lower prices or prevent further skyrocketing of the already abnormally high prices. In the platform peace is promised. In Congress long strides towards war have been taken. In their platform the Republicans would remedy all kinds of ills but in the Congress, which they now control, they have done nothing to really remedy any of them. Their tax reductions have been accompanied by greater spending than ever thus increasing instead of reducing the load of the national debt.

It all simmers down to the practice of too many of our politicians, who do not hesitate to promise anything that may get votes, but once they are back in office promises are forgotten and matters settle down to the customary do-nothing policy that has been so outstanding in the case of the present Congress.

The best and fairest way to judge any political party, which is in power, is not by their promises of today but by their performances or failure to perform, while they have been on the job.

Our present Republican Congress has been very kind to big business, sadly disregarding the masses of our people and shamefully anti-labor. In practice it has stood for the opposite of what its platform proclaims.

## Using Union Funds Wisely

A local labor union is a living part of the labor movement. What any local union really is consists chiefly of what it actually does, not only for its own members but for the labor movement as a whole.

Much of the headway made by a local union is due to its own efforts but by far the greater part of all gains result from the momentum of the union movement as a whole. Wages and working conditions must either improve for the entire labor movement or the local union will find it next to impossible to make much headway by itself.

For this reason all unionists should always remember that they owe most of what they are enjoying, not to their own individual efforts, but to the labor movement as a whole. It follows that all unions should be willing and ready to give a helping hand to others when that assistance is needed.

Many unions with large treasuries could be more liberal than they at times see fit to be. If it helps and strengthens a vital part of the labor movement that is the best investment which can be made with union funds. To not use funds at all, though badly needed, may lead later on to some injunction judge emptying the treasury to the harm instead of the good of the union. Use union funds wisely for what produces results.

Keep your union dues paid up well in advance. It is the best insurance you can carry, especially where your international union pays sick or death benefits.

When union men buy goods made by non-union people they are helping to undermine and weaken the cause of unionism.

# The Lid's Still Off

By BRADFORD V. CARTER  
Labor Press Associate's Feature Writer

General Electric Company's announcement last week of five to 12 per cent price increases on a long list of household appliances spot lights something that every worker and his wife knows—the cost of living is still rising.

But that isn't its only significance. It exposes the complete hypocrisy of the U. S. Steel "line" of three months ago—the balancing of money price cuts against very real refusal to grant wage increases. GE was among the many corporations which echoed Steel's words.

Last week this column told the story of how the auto industry was moved by the promise of continued inflation to abandon its loyalty to the "big steel line." Prospects for more profits changed the minds of industry's leaders. They reversed their previous decision to slug it out with labor this year.

Of course the new price increases—which were announced this week by the farm equipment industry, and the chemical companies as well as by GE—will be blamed upon labor's wage demands. The ability of many corporations to grant pay boosts out of profits will be soft-pedaled as always.

The Federal Reserve Board has estimated that the "middle income" of America's 42,000,000 families was \$2920 last year—\$320 higher than in 1946. But 13 out of every hundred families are handling less than \$100 cash, and another 18 are getting less than \$2000.

When the FRB figures are broken down by occupational groups, we find these "middle income" figures: families of businessmen and managers \$4500, professional workers \$4000, skilled and semi-skilled workers \$3000, clerks and sales people \$2900, and unskilled workers \$1800.

Farm families show a cash income "middle" of only \$1500, but are FRB says, many farmers have "a substantial non-money income."

Incidentally this "middle income" stuff is a little tricky. It doesn't mean average income. It means that 50 per cent are above, 50 per cent are below the figure.

Remember the Bureau of Labor Statistics study which demonstrated that it takes at least \$3200 a year to provide adequately for a family of four in our cities today?

This statistical picture of our present inflation,

which has been aptly called "a full employment depression," is well known to the top men of heavy industry who have just reversed their tentative decision of trying to hold the price line.

But with the country convinced of the necessity—and we don't dispute it—for foreign aid and a defense program, the industrialists believe they can get away with it. Sure, more consumers will be priced out of the market, but government orders will fill the gap.

Somehow we doubt that the Republican convention now in session will worry itself about the problems this picture presents. The last thing that the men who make the wage-price decisions would stand for would be their party's coming out for a clamping down of the lid on inflation.

"Price control," "commodity allocations," "repeal of Taft-Hartley," "minimum wage revision," "family allowances" all these will be considered naughty words in Philadelphia.

But there's one little point the boys seem to be overlooking. It was made recently in an article by Lean Keyserling, a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Just suppose, Keyserling says, we come into the 1950s without further need for foreign aid and arms expenditures. Then what?

"It does not seem realistic to anticipate that wages would be increased voluntarily or prices decreased systematically at the very time when the business outlook might be dampened by a decline in government spending."

"Delay in adjustment would result in curtailment of production and employment followed by disorderly price breaks and general economic decline—the typical spiral of depression," Keyserling predicts.

The economist isn't a defeatist, however. He points out that if the sort of things that the labor movement has been advocating in its legislative program and its wage drives are done now, if consumer purchasing power is brought up now, democracy doesn't again have to resign itself to the disgrace of depression.

It's too bad that none of the candidates for the Republican nomination wanted to discuss these things, isn't it?

# Chalk Up One For Progress

By M. H. HEDGES,  
Labor Press Associate's Feature Writer

Chalk one up for progress! Don't miss it: a war has been stopped by negotiation. The technique developed on the labor-industry front, in democratic countries, has been applied to a devastating war in Palestine—successfully.

This may be the most important event in modern history.

Progress records itself so slowly. The old League of Nations, created after the first world war, never got around to mediation and arbitration of international disputes. The old League invoked sanctions—unsuccessfully. Wars went on. Perhaps the League never really believed in itself. It was timid, polite and ineffectual. Now a new technique has arrived. A new formula has been applied. There is a truce in Palestine. Maybe the world is slowly returning to its senses. The world better—a nemesis awaits, the possibility of total destruction, of extinction of the plant, hangs heavily over the head of every thoughtful citizen, of the arriving world.

War is in part a habit—just as duelling was ever a habit. Men don't now rush to back lots and ping at each other with pistols. They go to court, or they let the incident pass. Men's honor is not less therefor, it is greater.

The United Nations is not merely a debating so-

ciety and ethical culture organization. The UN is an effectual arbitration board for the world.

This columnist grants that war can break out in Palestine again. This columnist also knows that Israel and the Arab states are little people compared to the great states, east and west. But the war there was real. It was bitter. It was modern. The cauldron sputtered and roared. It snuffed out human lives. All elements of conflict were present. It was halted by an order from the UN. A new day is being born. No subsequent event can take away the significance and importance of this truce.

Man is a fighting animal. Man is also supposed to be a thinking animal. Man should be aware at last of the predicament he is in. He has brought war to such a pitch of efficiency, that to fight it is to bring the world to the very brink of extinction. This is no joke. This no mere manner of speaking. This is the bare, harsh, brutal truth.

Every thinking citizen in every country of the world should mobilize to back up the new technique of the United Nations. The quarantine in Palestine must continue. Citizens should insist that it continue.

It would be a fine thing if mass meetings be held over the United States celebrating the dawning of a new day—a new hope—a new technique. The Fourth of July of the new world is here!

# How To Kill Small Business

By RICHARD SASULY,  
Federated Press Feature Writer

All around the committee table sat the steel magnates—paunchy men, bald or grey headed, sitting in solemn row. They represented U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, Republic, Jones & Laughlin and all the rest of the major producers.

Their silence was heavy as they watched Sen. Kenneth Wherry wrangle with Commerce Department Official John Virden. The occasion was the June 8 hearing before the Senate committee studying small business problems.

Wherry had presided over a series of meeting on the steel shortage. From all parts of the country he had heard reports of small businesses forced to the wall because they could not obtain steel.

Apparently baffled and exasperated by the problem, Wherry burst out:

"I don't want any kind of allocations but you're getting to a place where you're half slave and half free in this country."

Wherry continued, saying that "evidence reveals that the impact of the steel shortage on small business is bad and getting worse."

Virden retorted: "Don't put that in the record because it isn't true." The steel operators smiled slightly and nodded in approval.

Wherry slammed the table in irritation and demanded: "Don't you agree that the grey market for steel is the worst it's ever been?"

The grey and bald heads wagged slowly and one solemn voice said: "No."

Two facts were agreed to on all sides. The first is that steel is the key to American production. All the rest of industry turns on steel production.

The second fact is that steel is scarce. The mills are producing at capacity, but because of the wartime expansion of U. S. industry, steel would have to expand greatly to meet all needs.

At this point agreement stops. Wherry's committee has built up a huge pile of evidence showing that the steel shortage is operating to kill small business and strengthen the grip of monopoly. Small businesses are outbid in the grey market for steel. Steel sold through legitimate channels goes to old, and large, customers.

The situation is particularly bad, Wherry's committee found, in western states far from the open hearths of Pittsburgh. Higher freight rates to those areas cut down the profits of the steel makers. So they find business closer to home.

Representatives of seven Western States appeared before the Wherry subcommittee. Typical was the spokesman for Minnesota. He said that steel shortages cut employment in Minnesota's metal working industries by 1.6 per cent between 1947 and 1948. The metal working industries for the country as a whole expanded 2.3 per cent during the same period.

As an example of the far reaching importance of steel, the Minnesota spokesman said even the dairy industry in his state was hit. He said farmers were having increasing difficulty in getting pipe for their wells.

Sen. James E. Murray of Montana brought out the fact that in his state steel must be sought from warehouses as far away as Seattle or Minneapolis. Still the steel magnates sat tight and commented briefly, "The situation is improving."

There are laws on the books which are supposed to stop the growth of monopoly. Apparently there are no laws to stop the slow strangling of small business through control of the limited steel supply.

Sen. Murray said at the end of the June 8 hearing that unless something is done "we're going to see thousands of small firms shut down." No answer came back from the row of steel officials.



UNIONBUSTING under the Taft-Hartley Act is not limited to slick legal means. The management-government alliance has resorted to force in its attempt to crush labor's struggle for wage increases. Above, a scene from the recent strike of N. Y. Stock Exchange

workers, marked by vicious police brutality. Left, National Guard troops in flying wedge formation open a path for scabs through packinghouse picketlines in South St. Paul, Minn. Lower left, funeral procession for Santo Cicardo, packinghouse striker who was killed by a truck outside the Armour plant

in Chicago. A product of the atmosphere of violence inspired by Taft-Hartleyism is the scene at extreme upper left. Line bullets were pumped pointblank into James Price, leader of a strike of National Farm Labor Union (AFL) workers against the DiGiorgio fruit ranch near Bakersfield, Calif.

# One Year of 'Labor Peace' DANGER AHEAD

American workers face the second year of the Taft-Hartley act beginning with anti-labor employers eager for even tighter restrictions on union rights than they got in 1947.

In the coming year the present law will bear more heavily on labor because:

1. Many big contracts, signed just before the Taft-Hartley deadline last summer, face renewal. Bargaining will be 100 per cent under Taft-Hartley conditions.

2. Employers, hesitant to exploit the new law to full advantage at once, will open up with now-legal anti-labor activity—particularly after the 1948 elections.

3. Employers hope to exploit so-called "difficulties" even under the T-H law, in a drive for more legislation against labor.

The Joint Committee on Labor-Management Relations, meeting recently to consider revision of the Taft-Hartley law, discussed five changes as the most important at the moment. The committee view, expressed by Chairman Joseph H. Ball (R., Minn.), is that of industry.

Ball suggested (1) doing away with compulsory union shop elections, or outlawing the union shop; (2) outlawing industry-wide bargaining; (3) removing union welfare funds from collective bargaining; (4) setting up special labor courts to interpret some sections of the law and enforce them by injunction; and (5) outlawing strikes and strike threats where the employer claims the union demands are unlawful.

Spokesmen for major industries and the National Association of Manufacturers, as well as Gerard Reilly, former NLRB member who helped ghostwrite the T-H law, enthusiastically applauded most of these suggestions. They added their own, too. That will be their legislative program when the 81st Congress meets next January.

In recent hearings on so-called

right-to-work legislation, the House labor committee showed itself ready for more laws to aid strike-breaking. Proposals included streamlined use of court injunctions with federal troops to smash picketlines.

## REFUSAL TO BARGAIN

One of the major threats to labor which will develop this year is a concerted refusal of employers to bargain with unions not in compliance with Taft-Hartley filing requirements. The non-complying union cannot complain of this refusal to the NLRB. It must fight it out by economic action.

In some cases, employers have begun to cooperate with certified unions, particularly those representing only a part of their employees, in order to evade dealing with the established union which has not complied. The sections of the T-H law permitting separate bargaining units of particular groups of workers will permit more of this refusal. It will also encourage breaking up big unions.

Sooner or later a determined company will refuse to bargain with a complying union on, the claim that one or more of its officers is a member of a group seeking the overthrow of the U. S. government, making certification of the union improper. They will use Tty. Gen. Tom Clary's so-called subversive list as a start, and improve upon it. How the NLRB, the courts and the unions will deal with this tactic remains to be seen.

In organizing drives, companies have been given the green light to use their so-called free speech right to the limit. Barring only "threats of reprisal or promise of benefit," the NLRB permits companies to do

almost anything with rallies, literature and activity by foremen to defeat unions in elections.

The labor spy racket is protected by the T-H law, since company men may not be expelled from a union shop except for non-payment of dues. They will be bought and paid to stay in every union where the boss thinks they can be useful.

The national emergency clause authorizing the President to seek an injunction against certain strikes "affecting national health and safety" will be used more frequently. Administration leaders have made it clear that production for the European Recovery Program (Marshall plan) and for military preparedness must not be seriously interrupted. Already a threatened strike which would have tied up 60 per cent of the long-distance phone calls was put in this class.

A recent NLRB decision on the union shop issue showed the board will bow to a state law which is more restrictive than the Taft-Hartley law. Following this principle, the NLRB may let state legislation set the rule in many other fields.

## German Workers Shocked

BERLIN. — German workers were shocked by release of Hugo Stinnes Jr., top steel industrialist, by a denazification court subject to Anglo-American occupation authorities. Stinnes dodged responsibility for helping fool Hitler's war effort by claiming he was a "follower" of the Nazis, not an active party member. The Stinnes family became the most important in German industry in the 1920s, when Hugo Sr., father of the present bearer of the name, smashed strikes and profiteered from post-World War I inflation, consolidating his position afterwards with the aid of Wall St. loans.





## BOX INDUSTRY NEAR AGREEMENT WITH TEAMSTERS

An agreement was reached last week between negotiators for the box companies and the shoo-in industry in the Salinas area and General Teamsters Union 890 of Monterey county, the agreement subject to ratification by the union membership, according to Peter A. Andrade, union secretary.

Under the agreement, fork lift drivers would receive an increase of 17 1/2 cents per hour and truck drivers would receive an increase of 12 1/2 cents per hour, Andrade said. A special meeting of members affected will be called for ratification or rejection of the proposals.

## Del Rey Theatre Being Rebuilt

Second concrete pour on the Del Rey Theatre rebuilding job was completed last week with the upper portion of the walls and the loge section included in the pour, according to Business Representative S. M. Thomas, of Laborers and Cement Finishers' unions at Monterey.

Thomas said that the project to rebuild the theatre, which was destroyed by fire last year is being handled by Cunningham Contracting Co. of Oakland. The theatre is all of reinforced concrete.

## File T-H Affidavits

Washington (LPA)—The number of union officers filing non-Communist affidavits with the NLRB increased 14 per cent last month, the board has revealed. Over 85,000 national and local union leaders are now on record as not being Communists. The eight international unions that filed "compliance papers" in May brought the total up to 159, and 1,829 locals have registered.

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## Prohibition Effect Survey Is Planned

A state-wide survey to reveal the economic effect of return of prohibition to California is being conducted by the Anti-Prohibition Committee of the California State Council of Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel Service Employees, according to J. H. Morgan, district vice president of the state body and business agent of San Jose Bartenders Union 577.

Preliminary results show that the communities of the State would lose some \$20,000,000 a year currently being collected in license fees and liquid franchise taxes. Further, the inevitable depreciation of the billions of dollars worth of farm, hotel, restaurant and beverage manufacturing properties would result in an additional tremendous loss of tax revenue.

Of particular concern to labor would be the immediate loss of jobs for hundreds of thousands of workers. For example, in Sacramento alone some 650 bartenders, earning upward of \$70,000 a week, would be out of work; in Los Angeles 17,000 culinary workers and bartenders, whose pay ranges from \$5 to \$12 a day would be affected, and the same is proportionately true in other cities throughout the State.

Other workers who would be immediately affected are many teamsters, musicians, entertainers, farm workers, brewery, distillery, winery, and distribution workers, and hotel service employees. Estimates of the number of workers who would be immediately affected range from a minimum of 450,000 to 550,000. Another quarter million workers also would be affected more or less directly.

The U.S. government did not become a member of the International Labor Organization until 1934, 15 years after the ILO's founding.

## With Local 890

GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSEMEN  
AND HELPERS' UNION  
LOCAL 890  
Monterey, County  
Main and John Streets  
Salinas, California

**Important—Attention All Produce Drivers: Union shop elections will probably be held between July 15 and August 1. In any event you will be notified to appear at a special called meeting prior to July 15, at which time this whole situation will be discussed. This election will cover the Watsonville, Hollister and Salinas area.**

**C. E. GENTRY COMPANY-GILROY**

Negotiations are progressing favorably with this firm; meetings will be called again prior to resumption of operations.

**REGISTER TO VOTE NOW**

**LIQUID ICE COMPANY**

Watch engineers—shop men: Our Union is in negotiations with this firm regarding a new contract for 1948-49.

**SPIEGEL FARMS**

Negotiations are taking place with this firm also.

**LOCAL PICK UP AND DELIVERY**

Our contract for local pick up and delivery covering Highway, Gilbaris, P. M. T. Clark Bros., etc., are in the process of negotiations; you will be notified.

**ATTENTION ALL MEN IN CONSTRUCTION UNDER AGC CONTRACTS:**

Effective June 26th all classifications under our AGC are being increased 12 1/2 cents per hour.

**Members employed by Dempsey-Hudson, Salinas:** Negotiations are in progress regarding this operation.

**ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER?**

**REGAS AND SONS, SAN JUAN**

**SUNNYVALE, SALINAS**

Our contract has been opened with these firms regarding wages.

**SHOOK INDUSTRY, SALINAS**

A tentative offer of 12 1/2 cents has been made by the companies involved; watch this paper for a complete report in this industry.

**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:**

Our new office is now located at 274 E. Alisal Street; our telephone numbers remain the same: 4893-4894. Our office hours are from 8 to 5 Monday thru Friday, 8 to 1 on Saturdays.

Due to the fact that your Secretary and President will be in attendance at an important meeting called by our international at Bellingham, Washington, the meeting date has been changed for Salinas to July 7th at 8 P.M.; this meeting will be held at Carpenters Hall. The meeting for Monterey is scheduled for its regular time, 315 Alvarado Street, on July 8th.

**ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER?**

**IMPORTANT: YOU MUST REGISTER NOW IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 2nd.**

Are you in good standing? Re-

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## MINUTES

Bldg. Trades Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

HELD JUNE 17, 1948

Meeting called to order by chairman Floyd Mason at 8 p.m.

Roll Call showed 14 Delegates from 9 Local Unions present. Also one visitor, Bill Rapp, from the Electricians, was present. Bro. Rapp is at the present time with the U.S. Army.

Minutes of the previous meeting, June 3, 1948, were read and approved. At this time the regular Order of Business was suspended.

Bro. A. B. Woodard, International Organizer of Machinists, requested our assistance in organizing the Machine and Welding shops in this district. Bro. Woodard is from the Machinists Lodge No. 93 and has been active in this district for the past several weeks. He stated the Machinists needed help to stop the exploitation of their members by several unscrupulous employers in this district.

After considerable discussion it was moved, seconded and carried, the Secretary write the department explaining the Machinists case and inquire whether the Machinists would be able to affiliate with the Council in the future and use Building Trades cards. Bro. Woodard was excused at this time.

Bro. Preston Tuttle of the Carpenters Local 1323 spoke at this time concerning the Independent Progressive Party and the candidacy of Cole Weston and Dr. Cunningham and their political intentions. Bro. Preston's speech was well received by the delegates present and he was given a nice hand upon being excused.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A California State proposed General Industry Safety Orders was noted and filed. A letter from the California State Department of Industrial Relations concerning dates of hearings read and filed. A letter from the State Federation concerning delegates to the Convention Sept. 27, 1948. A letter from the Dept. stating the Council cannot fine any Delegate for any reason, read and filed. Two weekly Newsletters noted and certain paragraphs read. Minutes of the Santa Clara County B. & C. T. C. noted and filed. Minutes of the AFL Coordinating Committee read and filed.

**BUSINESS AGENT'S REPORT**

Bro. Miller reported on his activities for the past two weeks. Asks each Delegate to report any jobs that are not all right and do it as soon as possible.

Bro. Hastey, Electricians, reported business has slowed down.

**REPORT OF UNIONS**

**Brickmasons 16:** No Report.

**Carpenters 1323:** Bro. Dickerson reported Carpenters had approved proposed Building Trades By-Laws.

**Electricians 1072:** Bro. Fales—No Meeting.

**Laborers 690:** Bro. Casati reported Local 690 approved the proposed By-Laws. Bro. Thomas reported the Carmel Valley Dam job progressing very nicely.

**Lathers 1221:** Bro. French reported on the work in this district and some members not reporting in. Also presented new local By-Laws.

**Painters 272:** Bro. Bolin reported good meeting and negotiating still going on.

**Plasterers 337:** Bro. Thomas reported Plasterers had signed new agreement with an increase for Cement Finishers and Plasterers.

**Plumbers 62:** Bro. Long—Good meeting; three new members.

**Sheet Metal Workers 304:** Bro. Alsop reports Local 304 approves the proposed By-Laws but did not think members knew what they voted on. Bro. Isakson disputed this statement and stated the members were very attentive while By-Laws were being read.

**Roofers 50:** Bro. Murphy reported new agreement being negotiated.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

After discussion on proposed By-Laws it was moved, seconded and carried, the State Council be furnished with a copy of the proposed By-Laws. Moved, seconded and carried, the proposed By-Laws be read as a Special Order of Business and to be acted upon immediately after the reading of the Minutes at our next regular meeting, July 2.

**NEW BUSINESS**

It was requested we write the State Building Trades Council concerning the Quarterly Work Cards, which have not arrived. This will be done.

All Bills were read and ordered paid.

The Financial Report was read and approved.

There being no further business we adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRY FOSTER,

Recording Secretary.

He was understood, meek, diffident, subdued, and he had applied for a job as night watchman.

"Yes," said the boss, dubiously, "but the fact is we want someone who is restless and uneasy, especially at night. Someone who is always listening, thinking there are bad characters around. We want a large, aggressive, intrepid and dangerous person, bad tempered and revengeful. In short, the kind of a person who, when aroused, is a fiend."

"All right," said the little man as he turned away, "I'll send the wife."

## PAINTERS 1104 WIN INCREASE IN NEW PACT

Wages of union painters in the Salinas area were increased by 15 cents per hour last week to the level established recently for union painters in the San Francisco Bay area, according to Business Agent Carl Lara of Salinas Painters' Union No. 1104.

Effective as of July 14, the new wage was set at \$2.15 for journeyman painters, \$2.40 per hour for spray painting, structural steel painting and swing stage work, he said.

Negotiators for the contractors' association included Dennis Hartman, former union official, and J. T. Brown, contractor.

Lara reported also that union painters are making good progress on the Sears' building, with the McIntyre painting firm doing most of the work.

## MATTOS WINS RODEO HONORS

For the second straight year, John F. Mattos, union official, put on his cowboy clothes, mounted his horse and captured California Rodeo honors for the best dressed and mounted cowboy.

Mattos, secretary of Laborers' Union 272 of Salinas, won day money for the event on Saturday and Sunday and on the final day of the show was chosen best of a group of four to cap the honors.

Besides the honor, Mattos was awarded merchandise orders as a prize. Last year he captured similar honors at the rodeo and he has won awards at various other western events throughout the area in past years.

## Salinas Council Hears of School

Van Kennedy, labor relations director at University of California, was to address the Monterey County Central Labor Council at Salinas last Friday night in regard to the coming labor institute at Asilomar.

Secretary W. G. Kenyon of the council, said Kennedy had notified the council that he would bring a personal invitation to the council delegates and union members and officials to attend various classes in labor relations, negotiation tactics and other matters in the mid-July course.

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## AFTER THE DELUGE



This is what's left of homes of victims of the rampaging Columbia river in Portland, Ore. Local AFL and CIO leaders are pressing for emergency housing measures, and have organized relief activities in the flooded areas.

## Flood Victims Plea for Homes Ignored

Portland, Ore.—More than 1,000 Vanport flood refugees, many of them now living on partially inundated Swan Island, stormed the City Council to demand immediate requisition of hotel rooms and auto courts to house victims of the nation's worst flood disaster.

They were led by officers of the Citizens Disaster Committee, including Bruce Bishop, editor of the "Telephone Workers Dispatcher," Victor Todd, Portland longshoreman, and local labor attorney Irving Goodman, as well as some 200 members of Hodcarriers Local 296, the AFL union whose members were most heavily affected by the flood.

Other demands made by the committee included: (1) appropriation of funds for the Vanport victims, (2) priority in employment to flood repair work, and (3) a rent freeze as of May 30 to prevent gouging by landlords.

The huge crowd filled every inch of space in the council chamber and stood in traffic-blocking throngs on the street outside. The council's only answer to the request for help was to refer the whole matter to the Traffic Commission for discussion at some indefinite future date.

Mayor Earl Riley (R) threatened to drive the flood victims out of the council chamber when they dared to applaud former Vanport teacher Ella Campbell who branded the Housing Authority's attempt to crowd the flood victims and their children into "trailer ghettos" as something that "cannot be hidden from the American public behind a Festival of Roses." That was a reference to Portland's annual festival which went on as usual this year although it brought thousands of outsiders in to fill hotel rooms desperately needed by flood victims.

The Housing Authority, whose notice to Vanport residents that the dikes were safe is blamed by many for life and property loss in the disaster, was appointed by the mayor. Riley was overwhelmingly defeated for reelection by labor-backed Dorothy McCullough Lee in the May primaries, but the new mayor does not take office until next year.

Meanwhile, persistent AFL inquiry into the fate of union members who lived in Vanport has forced the Red Cross to admit that its list of unlocated persons is far

from complete. The names of nine AFL carpenters were added to the list June 16. Other AFL unions listing members still unaccounted for include the Boilermakers with eight names and the Painters with 16. The AFL is setting up a master file in order to check and double check on possible fatalities.

A similar check is under way by CIO unions who had over 335 members living in Vanport. The CIO regional office is acting as coordinator for relief and rehabilitation work done by the Portland Industrial Union Council, the CIO State Council, and the Telephone Workers Organizing Committee. Contributions collected by the CIO will be used among other things to make down payments on furniture.

The Laundry Workers International Union (AFL) sent a \$1,000 donation to its local here, which had some 100 members in Vanport. Cash outlays ranging from \$10 to \$35 are being made to individual members who lost everything in the flood.

## NLRB Orders Company Bargain On Health Plans

Washington.—Employers are required to bargain with the union on group health and accident insurance programs covering their workers, the NLRB ruled in a 4 to 1 decision announced here.

The principle, made in a case involving the United Steelworkers and the W. W. Cross Company of East Jaffrey, N.H., extends the rule laid down in the Inland Steel Company case. In that decision the board said the firm must consult the bargaining representative on pension and retirement plans.

Whether the union workers benefit by the decision under Taft-Hartley conditions remains in doubt, since the NLRB said the steel union must meet the filing requirements of the law before the order becomes effective. The union has not filed non-Communist affidavits, and has begun a court case to establish its right to refrain from doing so on the ground that the requirement is unconstitutional.

## NLRB ISSUES 'ROADMAP'

By JACK ABBOTT

The NLRB has just issued what it calls a "description of organization," a sort of roadmap around the labor board. This interesting document purports to inform the reader as to the officials and offices to contact when dealing with the new set-up, and describes the wheels within wheels at the board's Washington office, the regional office, and the General Counsel's office.

Union officials suggest that future issues of the NLRB roadmap should bear more descriptive chapter headings. For example, it is suggested that the section dealing with employers rights be called: SLOW! INJUNCTION AHEAD!; that the union "rights" section be described as: STOP! DEAD END!; and that the chapter dealing with Denham's office boys be entitled: DANGER! LAWYERS AT WORK!

## UNIONS? NLRB GYPSUM

The latest NLRB decision involving the so-called Warshovsky doctrine in the U.S. Gypsum Co. case where the board dismissed a petition for an election filed by the United Gas Coke & Chemical Workers.

This decision is the third dealing with the right of an international union, which is in compliance, to petition for an NLRB election where the local union has not filed non-Communist affidavits.

In the Warshovsky case the United Auto Workers petitioned for an election. A rival union claimed that the local at the plant had not complied and that the NLRB should therefore refuse to order an election. The board held that since UAW was in compliance, and since the local had not been chartered at the time the petition was filed, the parent organization had the right to petition. This case was accepted as regular board policy.

Three weeks ago, the policy changed. The board issued its Lane-Wells decision where the Oil Workers Intl. Union petition was dismissed because the national union was alleged to be fronting for the local union. (NLRB Chairman Herzog later apologized for the word fronting because it turned out that the local union has been in compliance for some time.)

Several days ago, in the U. S. Gypsum Co. case, the board went one step further and dismissed the international union's petition because the parent organization was acting "on behalf of" the local union.

That the policy shown in the U. S. Gypsum Co. case has replaced the Warshovsky doctrine was stated openly by Chairman Herzog in recent testimony before a Congressional committee.

## INFORMATION PLEASE

The department supervisor in a large auto plant assigned the crane operators to work on various cranes as the need arose for their services. The company decided that it preferred to have the men work at specific cranes throughout the plant. The union agreed to the new plan.

When the night shift operators reported to work that same day they wanted the plan explained to them. They waited at the time clock for an hour or so until the department supervisor answered their question.

The company called this one hour's delay in starting work a strike. The crane operators were laid off for two weeks as a penalty. The union argued that the men had no intention of striking, and the matter was taken to arbitration.

The arbitrator ruled that the company should pay the men for the time they lost during the lay-off since there had been no strike. He held that the men had made no demands, and proved themselves willing to work as soon as their questions were answered.

Simple case? Very. But the union got off lightly. Under Taft-Hartley the company might have sued the union for damages resulting from this alleged strike in violation of the contract.

## Injunction Against Movie Blacklist Sought

Washington.—The bigwigs of the movie industry were sued in U.S. district court June 1 for setting up a discharge and blacklist combination to be used against film writers suspected of having dangerous thoughts.

The Screen Writers Guild together with 30 outstanding authors and playwrights brought the suit, asking an injunction against the Motion Picture Assn. of America and other associations dominating the industry. They pointed out the procedure was set up after the House Un-American committee terrorized the producers at the Hollywood hearings last October.

Ten writers, directors and producers defied the committee and face possible prison sentences for contempt of the un-Americans.

DEMAND THE UNION LABEL

## WHEELCHAIR BRIGADE



Badly crippled veterans who set up a wheelchair beachhead on New York's Park Avenue. The vets Tarawa, Normandy and Iwo Jima were out to get signatures on a petition asking Congress to provide special housing for paraplegics.

## THE STEEL TRUST VS EXPANSION

A recent U. S. Supreme Court decision highlighted the growth of monopoly power in this country. The court approved by a 5 to 4 decision the acquisition by U. S. Steel of an independent steel producer on the Pacific Coast.

The minority opinion strongly condemned the manner in which "little independent units are gobbled up by big ones." It went on to state that "size in steel is the measure of the power of a handful of men over our economy."

That power is being exercised by the steel trust against the welfare of the country. The postwar inflation which has undermined the living standards of the people has been stoked by the giant steel corporations.

The steel corporations blackmailed the government into permitting a rise of \$5 a ton early in 1946. A year ago they raised prices again by \$5 to \$10 a ton behind the false pretext that they were compelled to make the increases because of higher coal prices. Last fall they again raised prices for the third time.

To alibi their failure to grant the steel workers a justified wage increase, the steel corporations reduced prices by \$75 million a year a couple of months ago. As against this reduction, they had increased prices by over \$750 million in the past two years. Now the trade press reports that the steel corporations are preparing to put through a fourth round of inflationary price increases.

The steel trust can put through these increases because of its tight monopoly controls. The four largest steel corporations—U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, Republic and Jones & Laughlin—between them control some 65 per cent of the nation's steel ingot capacity. U. S. Steel alone controls more than 35 per cent.

The steel trust has used this power to raise prices and, in turn, its action set off thousands of other inflationary price increases throughout the economy. It has also used its power to perpetuate and accentuate existing steel shortages so as to continue a sellers' market in which the corporations can go whole hog for profits.

## BALKS AT EXPANSION

Before the war the steel trust refused to expand capacity. The government had to carry through the job at its own expense. The government paid directly for steel plants which it built, and it paid indirectly for the steel plants the corporations built through tax refunds.

Now that the economy needs more steel for maintaining high level employment, the steel trust again refuses to expand capacity. Current output is running about \$5 million tons a year. About 95 million tons are needed to sustain the present level of employment.

But U. S. Steel and other giant corporations insist that current capacity is excessive and that only two-thirds of capacity will be needed by 1950. With the steel industry running at this level, unemployment would amount to about 14 million.

The government and the courts have contributed to this monopoly blackmail by the steel trust. When the war ended, the government turned over the major plants built during wartime to the steel corporations for a fraction of their cost. And now the Supreme Court has approved the further extension of monopoly power in the industry, although the minority Justices in their decision emphasized that the steel monopoly "creates gross inequalities against existing or reputative competitors" and is "a social menace—because of its control of prices."

The average cost of meat on the hoof in mid-June set a new all-time record, exceeding the peaks of all previous inflation periods.

## Japan Army Vets Groomed In S. Korea

Seoul, South Korea — Korean veterans of the Imperial Japanese Army are marching again in U.S.-occupied South Korea. To the disgust and alarm of most Koreans, who regard these men as traitors, 2,500 members of the Japanese Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans Assn., organized into companies and battalions, goose-stepping past a reviewing stand here and heard speeches calling them "the nucleus of the future Korean army."

Taking the salute was Col. Kim Suk-won, an officer in Japan's army for 30 years who won Emperor Hirohito's Order of Merit for exploits against the Chinese in Shansi province in an early campaign of the Sino-Japanese war. Kim, who has now dropped his adopted Japanese name of Shaku-Kaneyama, was dressed in full Japanese uniform with only the cap badge replaced by a new one.

Also on the platform was Gen. Li Chung-chun, commander of a wartime Korean contingent organized by China's dictator Chiang Kai-shek. Li now leads the fascist South Korean Dai Dong Youth Corps, which has been accused of murdering liberals and labor leaders. Li and Kim were classmates in a Japanese military academy and are now close friends despite the fact that they were on different sides in World War II, a subordinate explained.

Both Li and Kim pledged loyalty to the new U.S.-sponsored South Korean government of rightist Dr. Syngman Rhee. Li told the servicemen, in his speech, that they would be called on to "shed their blood for the fatherland against Communist traitors."

The Japanese army veteran's group, which is estimated to have 20,000 active members, is one element of the new military force being set up here. Other components are the Dai Dong Youth Corps, which claims nearly half a million members, the 25,000-strong U.S.-armed constabulary, and the Korean National Youth, which claims 800,000 members and is also financed by the U.S.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS



## PRECOCIOUS



"Too bad she isn't a boy. It'd be nice to have another strikebreaker in the family."

## LOCAL 483 REPORTS



HOTEL AND RESTAURANT  
EMPLOYEES & BARTENDERS  
ALLIANCE 483  
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

Your secretary has written few reports of late, due in part to his own negligence, but mainly because of the extended contract negotiations with the resulting demands upon his time. He intends to be more "on the ball" with the weekly reports.

In last week's paper there was an article dealing with the contract settlement, which was finally reached on Friday, June 18th—just one hundred and seventeen days after the initial request for negotiations. Generally speaking, your contract committee feels that we have come through with a good contract, which provides many gains for all the members. We didn't get as much of a wage boost as we wanted—nor as much as present day costs of living indicates we actually should have, but—we have made a fine start, and we did reach a peaceful settlement, in the face of great odds. I should like to give particular credit to those members of our organization who stayed with the negotiations to the very end, and worked constantly and unceasingly for the best interests of the Union and its membership. Our President, Harvey Rose, and contract committee members Alma Brewer, Dorothy Leitz, Peter Puhl, and Tommie Nowell really did a job. Other committee members worked equally hard, but were unable to attend all the negotiations meetings due to the conflicting hours which they worked. It has been a real pleasure and an honor to work with such fine, conscientious members. I hope the membership will pause for just a moment and consider how lucky we are to have such people in our organization.

The next regular meeting of Local 483 will be held on Wednesday, July 7th at 8:30 p.m. The newly elected officers will be installed at this meeting, and we hope to have several visitors on hand to assist with the installation. In addition, a record number of new members will be presented for initiation at the meeting. Let's have a full house on Wednesday, July 7th—to greet our new officers, our visitors, and our new members. Let's show everyone that Local 483 is an organization which is "on the ball" and really going places!

See you all at the Annual Election of Officers on Tuesday, July 6th. Polls open from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. LET'S EVERYBODY VOTE!!!

GEORGE L. RICE,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

By June 1, 1944, a total of 4,217,000 young men between 18 and 37 had been classed as 4-F, rejected for military service because of "physical, mental or moral reasons."

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